BOOK 35

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Asterix AND OBELIX ALL AT SEA

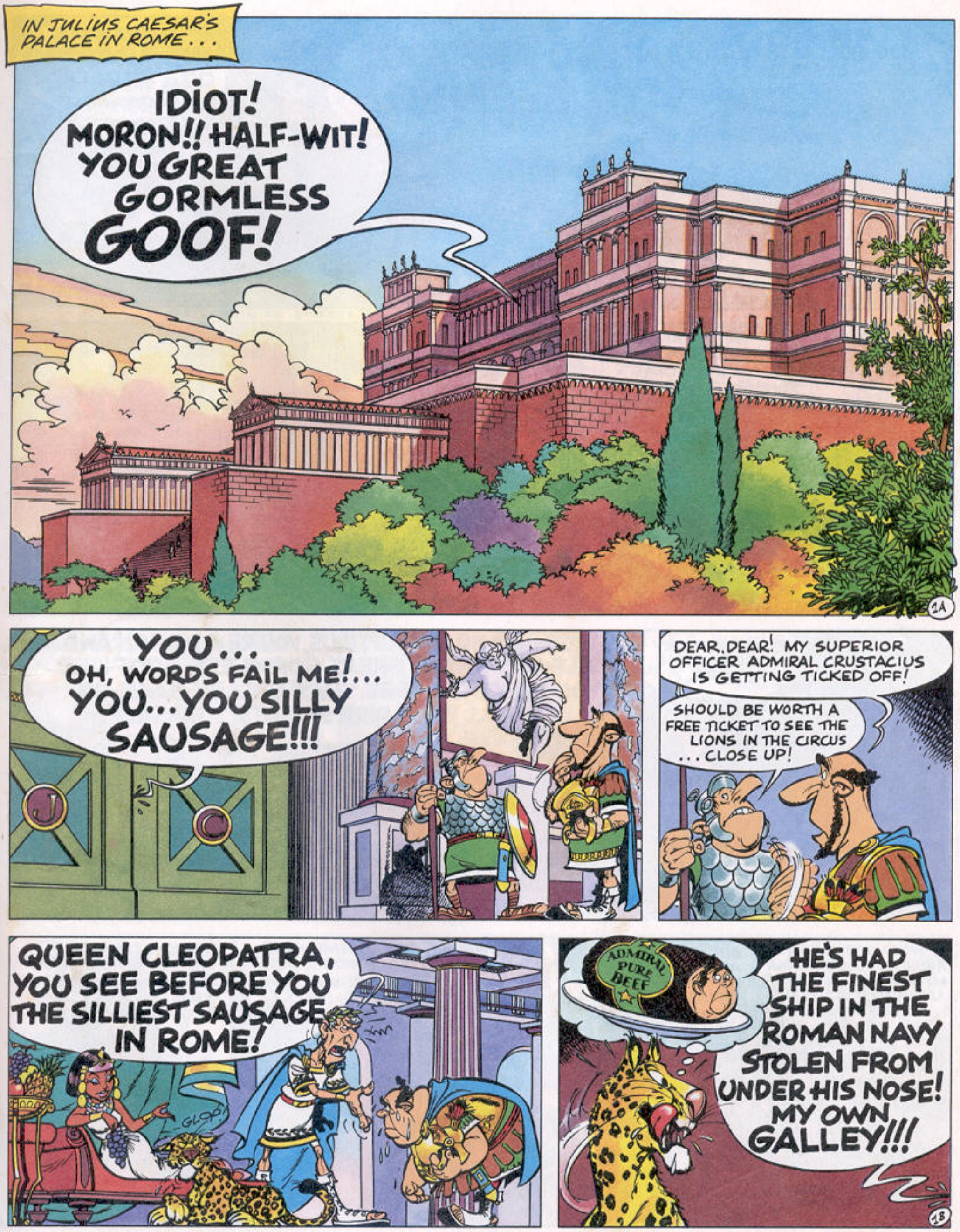


BOOK 35

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Asterix AND OBELIX ALL AT SEA





IN JULIUS CAESAR'S PALACE IN ROME . . .
IDIOT! MORON!! HALF-WIT! YOU GREAT GORMLESS GOOF!
YOU... OH, WORDS FAIL ME!... YOU...YOU SILLY SAUSAGE!!!
DEAR, DEAR! MY SUPERIOR OFFICER ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS IS GETTING TICKED OFF!
SHOULD BE WORTH A FREE TICKET TO SEE THE LIONS IN THE CIRCUS . . . CLOSE UP!
QUEEN CLEOPATRA, YOU SEE BEFORE YOU THE SILLIEST SAUSAGE IN ROME!
GLOP
ADMIRAL PURE BEEF
HE'S HAD THE FINEST SHIP IN THE ROMAN NAVY STOLEN FROM UNDER HIS NOSE! MY OWN GALLEY!!!

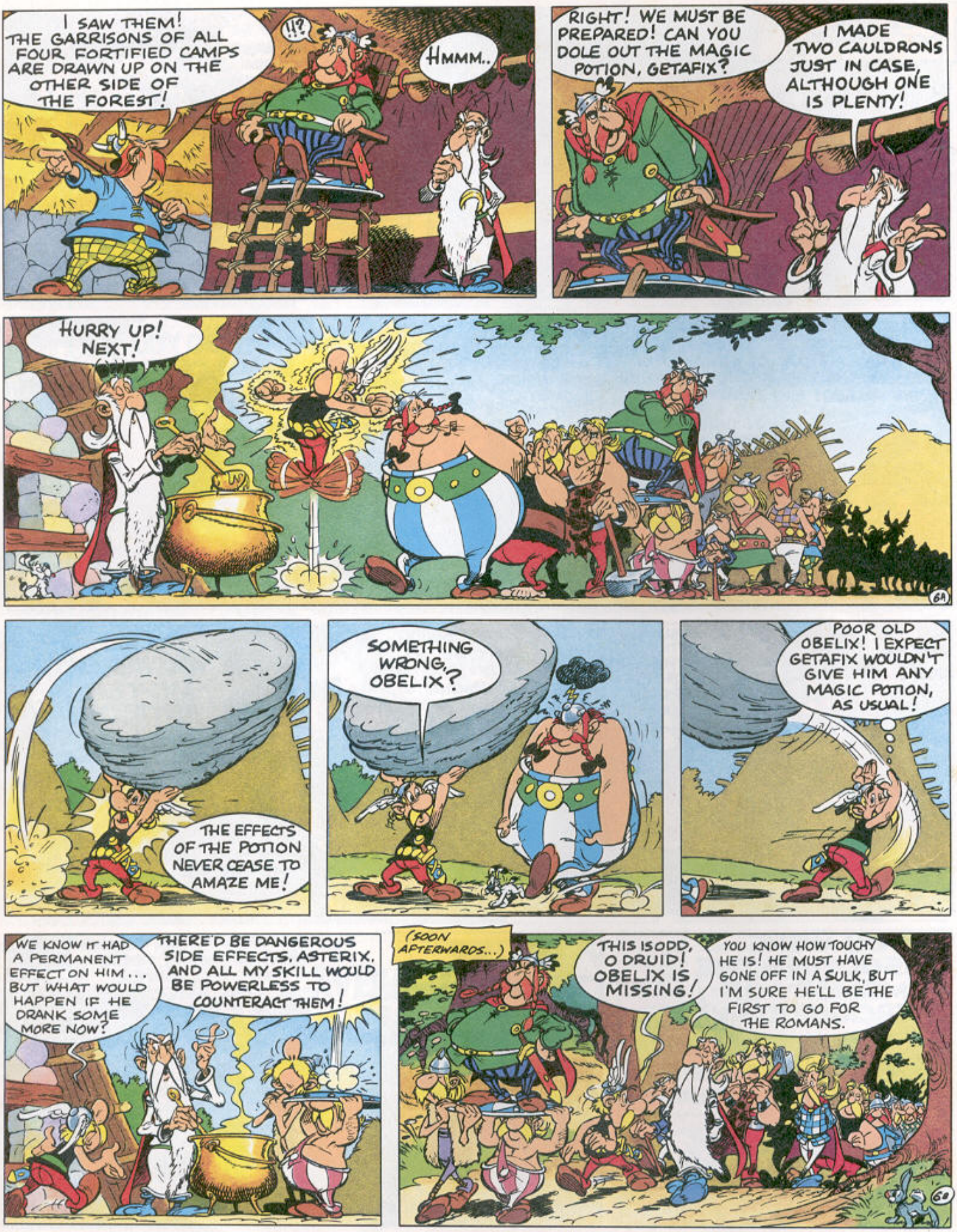

WELL, YOU SEE, CAESAR, THE GALLEY SLAVES ARE REVOLTING...
AND SO ARE YOU! STOP BEEFING!
THEY'RE ONLY A HANDFUL OF MUTINEERS, O CAESAR. THEY'LL NEVER PASS THE FRETUM GADITANUM!*
* STRAITS OF GIBRALTAR.
I HOPE NOT, CRUSTACIUS, OR YOU'LL BE IN DIRE STRAITS YOURSELF! GET MOVING, AND PUT SOME BEEF INTO IT!
I'LL SORT EVERYTHING OUT O WONDER OF WONDERS, DIVINE CAESAR!
SLAM!
BIT OF A STICKY INTERVIEW, EH, ADMIRAL?
VICE-ADMIRAL NAUTILUS, YOU'RE A MORON AND A HALF-WIT AND A GREAT GORMLESS GOOF AND YOU'D BETTER GET THAT GALLEY BACK OR YOU'LL BE IN DIRE STRAITS YOURSELF!
IF WORD GETS OUT THAT A BUNCH OF SLAVES STOLE MY OWN GALLEY, I'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE ENTIRE ANCIENT WORLD!
BUT YOU ALREADY ARE, O WONDER OF WONDERS, DIVINE CAESAR!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, I ALREADY AM?
WELL, REMEMBER THOSE INDOMITABLE GAULS STILL HOLDING OUT AGAINST...?
LOOK YOU CAN LEAVE THE PAST HISTORY OF THE GALLIC WARS TO ME!


AFRICANS, ¡HISPANIANS!, LUSITANIANS, BELGIANS, GERMANS AND BRITONS NEVER WILL BE SLAVES!
NEVER!!!
I, SPARTAKIS THE GREEK, SWEAR BY ALL THE GODS OF OLYMPUS...
...THAT I WILL LEAD YOU UP THE PATH TO LIBERTY!
LET'S HOPE IT'S NOT A GARDEN PATH, HOMBRE!
ZOTOO HOPE!
RIGHT, SO THIS IS A LIBERTY BOAT, BUT JUST WHERE DO WE GO ASHORE?
YES, WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT, BUT WHERE'S IT BOUND?
I SAY, OLD BOY TIME FOR A SPOT OF BRAINSTORMING, WHAT?
VE VILL OUR HEADS TOGETHER PUT, JA!
RIGHT! EVERYONE'S AT LIBERTY TO STATE HIS PREFERENCE. WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO ASHORE?
¡HISPANIA! LUSITANIA BELGICA GERMANIA AFRICA BRITAIN
ONE BY ONE, FOR ZEUS'S SAKE!



YOU'D LIKE THE WAY AFRIC'S SUNNY FOUNTAINS ROLL DOWN THEIR GOLDEN SAND!
HISPANIA'S THE PLACE! IT'S SPAINFULLY OBVIOUS!
WE'D FIND A BETTER PORT IN LUSITANIA.
HUH!
EVEN IF CAESAR PURSUED US TO BELGICA, HE MIGHT MEET HIS WATERLOO THERE!
HEIM, HEIM... THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HEIM!
LISTEN, WE HAVE TO TAKE REFUGE SOMEWHERE THERE ARE NO ROMANS! BUT AS WE ALL KNOW, THE ROMANS ARE EVERYWHERE!
I SAY, I'VE JUST HAD A BRAINWAVE, OLD FRUIT!
4A
MY UNCLE ANTICLIMAX* IN BRITAIN TOLD ME ABOUT SOME INDOMITABLE GAULS IN AN ARMORICAN VILLAGE WHO KNOCK THE ROMANS FOR SIX WITH A MAGIC POTION! JOLLY GOOD WHEEZE, WHAT?
JOIN THE LEGIONS, THEY SAID... IT'S A MANS LIFE IN THE LEGIONS...
?!
*SEE ASTERIX IN BRITAIN
IF THAT'S SO, THEN LET'S MAKE FOR THIS GAULISH VILLAGE! EVERYONE AGREE?
CLICK!
WE AGREE!!!
AND SO CAESAR'S MAGNIFICENT GALLEY CHANGES COURSE AND SETS OFF FOR ARMORICA TO TAKE REFUGE WITH THE INDOMITABLE GAULS.
4B


LATER, SOME WAY OFF IN GAUL...
I HAD A TERRIBLE NIGHTMARE LAST NIGHT, ASTERIX!
YOU DID?
I DREAMED THAT JULIUS CAESAR DECIDED TO WITHDRAW ALL THE GARRISONS SURROUNDING THE VILLAGE!
JUST A TOUCH OF INDIGESTION, OBELIX! I KEEP TELLING YOU NOT TO EAT MORE THAN THREE BOARS BEFORE GOING TO BED!
BUT I CAN'T GET TO SLEEP WITHOUT AT LEAST FOUR INSIDE ME!
WELL, IT WAS ONLY A NIGHTMARE! AND EVEN IF YOUR DREAM CAME TRUE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CAME TRUE?!
WHY NOT? WE MIGHT FINALLY GET PEACE WITH HONOUR!
COME ALONG, DOGMATIX! WE WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH THESE POLICIES OF APPEASEMENT!
?!
OH, OBELIX, DON'T BE SO SILLY! I WAS ONLY JOKING!
OH NO, YOU WEREN'T, MISTER ASTERIX!
YOU WERE INSULTING THE MEMORY OF VERCINGETORIX!
HAVE YOU GONE COMPLETELY BONKERS?
RAISE THE ALARM!! THE ROMANS ARE ABOUT TO ATTACK!!
!!!
A GOOD THING THE ROMANS HAVE GOT MORE SENSE THAN YOU, MISTER ASTERIX!
THAT'S FUNNY! THERE WAS NOTHING TO SUGGEST THEY WERE GOING TO ATTACK!


I SAW THEM! THE GARRISONS OF ALL FOUR FORTIFIED CAMPS ARE DRAWN UP ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FOREST!
!!?
HMMM..
RIGHT! WE MUST BE PREPARED! CAN YOU DOLE OUT THE MAGIC POTION, GETAFIX?
I MADE TWO CAULDRONS JUST IN CASE, ALTHOUGH ONE IS PLENTY!
HURRY UP! NEXT!
THE EFFECTS OF THE POTION NEVER CEASE TO AMAZE ME!
SOMETHING WRONG, OBELIX?
POOR OLD OBELIX! I EXPECT GETAFIX WOULDN'T GIVE HIM ANY MAGIC POTION, AS USUAL!
WE KNOW IT HAD A PERMANENT EFFECT ON HIM... BUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF HE DRANK SOME MORE NOW?
THERE'D BE DANGEROUS SIDE EFFECTS, ASTERIX, AND ALL MY SKILL WOULD BE POWERLESS TO COUNTERACT THEM!
(SOON AFTERWARDS...)
THIS IS ODD, O DRUID! OBELIX IS MISSING!
YOU KNOW HOW TOUCHY HE IS! HE MUST HAVE GONE OFF IN A SULK, BUT I'M SURE HE'LL BE THE FIRST TO GO FOR THE ROMANS.



AS IT HAPPENS, THE ROMANS ARE NOT FAR AWAY. THE FOUR GARRISONS ARE DRAWN UP ON PARADE, BEING REVIEWED BY THEIR NEW COMMANDER, VICE-ADMIRAL NAUTILUS.
ANOTHER BRASS HAT SENT OUT FROM ROME!
LOOKS LIKE HE'LL HAVE THE BRASS TO MAKE US FIGHT THOSE GAULS!
LEGIONARIES, I'M HERE TO PUT SOME BACKBONE INTO YOU! DISCIPLINE IS THE STRENGTH OF THE ROMAN ARMY!
AND FOR A START...
SPQR
STAND TO ATTENTION!
YOU DO JUST THAT. BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO ATTEND TO YOU, ROMANS!
?!
WHOOOSH!
TELL ME, ROMAN, WHY THIS FULL-SCALE ATTACK?
BUT... BUT WE WERE ONLY REHEARSING THE PARADE TO WELCOME ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS!
THEN TELL YOUR ADMIRAL CRUSTIFERUS THAT IF THERE'S ANY PARADING AROUND HERE...
...: WE DO IT!
PAF!


SO MUCH FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE ROMAN ARMY!
YEAH... I'VE A GOOD MIND TO TURN MY TOGA AND SIGN ON WITH THE GAULS!
THE ROMANS ARE GETTING FEEBLER... THESE ARE JUST SMALL FRY!
YES... THEY DO LOOK A BIT BATTERED.
OH. VERY FUNNY!
8A
YOU KNOW, GETAFIX, IT'S NOT LIKE OBELIX TO PASS UP SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FUN!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M WORRIED.
I'M SURE HE MUST HAVE HAD AN ACCIDENT!
ASTERIX, A TERRIBLE IDEA HAS JUST OCCURRED TO ME!
QUICK! FOLLOW ME!
OH, HELP!!! JUST AS I FEARED!
8B


HE'S DRUNK THE WHOLE OF THE SECOND CAULDRON OF MAGIC POTION!
?
GRRR! GRRR!
BUT... BUT THIS IS TERRIBLE! HIS WHOLE BODY HAS TURNED TO GRANITE!
I FEAR THE WORST, ASTERIX!
SPEAK TO US, OBELIX! SAY SOMETHING!
TAP! TAP! TAP!
WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM LIKE THIS!!
OH DEAR!
POOR OLD OBELIX! MORE OF A STATUESQUE FIGURE THAN EVER!
STONED OUT OF HIS MIND!
I WILL NOW SING A DIRGE FOR A ROCK STAR!
WATCH OUT... YOU'RE BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE, SUNSHINE!
SHOW A LITTLE RESPECT FOR POOR OBELIX, CAN'T YOU?!!
ALL RIGHT, NO MORE JOKES IN DUBIOUS TASTE! CARRY HIM TO HIS HUT WHILE I GATHER SOME HERBS. I'M GOING TO ATTEMPT THE IMPOSSIBLE!


LATER, AFTER GATHERING HERBS IN THE FOREST, THE DRUID RETURNS TO HIS HUT.
POOR OLD OBELIX!
THIS IS DREADFUL!
BANG! BANG! BANG!
APPALLING!
WHAT ON EARTH...?!
SURELY THEY'D NEVER DARE...
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET HIM OUT!
PHEW!
BANG!
A GOOD THING WE'RE STILL FEELING THE EFFECTS OF THE MAGIC POTION!
SO IS HE, IT SEEMS!
BANG! BANG!
RIGHT, EVERYBODY OUT! ASTERIX WILL SIT UP WITH HIM ALONE, WHILE I TRY TO MAKE AN ANTIDOTE.
OH, OBELIX, YOU STUPID IDIOT! WHY DID YOU IGNORE GETAFIX'S WISE ADVICE? WHAT'S TO BECOME OF DOGMATIX AND ME IF YOU STAY STONY AS A MENHIR FOR EVER?


NIGHT HAS FALLEN ON THE LITTLE VILLAGE. EVERYONE IS DEEPLY UPSET BY THE INCIDENT. LIGHT SHOWS IN ONLY TWO HUTS...
ONE IS THE HOME OF THE DRUID, WHO IS NOT VERY HOPEFULLY BREWING A POTION OF WHICH HE ALONE KNOWS THE SECRET...
AND THE OTHER IS POOR OBELIX'S HOUSE. HIS FRIEND ASTERIX IS STILL SITTING UP WITH HIM.
IN THE SMALL HOURS...
HAS HE MOVED AT ALL?
I'M AFRAID NOT.
NOW TO WAIT FOR THE POTION TO TAKE EFFECT... AND HOPE!
AREN'T YOU SURE IT WILL WORK, THEN?
I'VE NEVER HAD A CASE LIKE THIS BEFORE... BUT WE MUST LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED!
WOOF!
YOU'RE THE BEST DRUID IN THE UNIVERSE, GETAFIX! DOGMATIX AND I ARE SURE YOU'LL MANAGE TO CURE OBELIX!
MAY TOUTATIS HEAR YOU, ASTERIX! MAY TOUTATIS HEAR YOU!


IN THE ROMAN CAMP OF AQUARIUM...
HERE'S THE ADMIRAL, VICE-ADMIRAL!
ANOTHER OF THE TOP BRASS!
YOU CALL THESE ROMANS? GONE INTO A DECLINE ALREADY, HAVE THEY???
ER... WELL, THE FACT IS...
THE FACT IS WHAT, NAUTILUS?
WELL, YOU SEE, WE WERE JUST PEACEFULLY PARADING...
...WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN...
ARE YOU SAYING THAT HANDFUL OF GAULS DID THIS TO YOU?
WELL, THEY ARE A HANDFUL... I WAS MUCH STRUCK BY IT MYSELF, ADMIRAL!
NEVER MIND! FOLLOW ME. I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU.
WELL, ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS, CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT WE'RE DOING IN THIS JUPITER-FORSAKEN COUNTRY?
OUR FLEET IS FOLLOWING CAESAR'S GALLEY AT A DISTANCE. IT IS NOW APPROACHING THE COAST OF ARMORICA, AND OBVIOUSLY THE MUTINEERS WILL TRY TO TAKE REFUGE IN THE VILLAGE OF INDOMITABLE GAULS!
I GET IT! AS SOON AS THEY DISEMBARK AND LEAVE THE SHIP, WE GRAB IT BACK! BRILLIANT IDEA!!!
HO, HO, HO! AND I'LL SOON PERSUADE THE GAULS TO HAND THOSE MUTINEERS OVER!
ER... THAT MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A BRILLIANT IDEA!


STILL NO IMPROVEMENT?
NO CHANGE AT ALL!!!
CLICK!
LET'S TRY SOMETHING ELSE!
MAYBE A PSYCHOLOGICAL SHOCK... SOME STRONG EMOTION...
!
I'M SORRY, IMPEDIMENTA... I'D HOPED THAT PERHAPS...
HMPH! AND ME THE BEST COOK IN THE VILLAGE, THOUGH I SAY IT MYSELF!
13A
LET'S TRY ANOTHER EXPERIMENT. PANACEA IS HOME IN THE VILLAGE VISITING HER PARENTS. I'VE ASKED HER TO DROP BY.
PANACEA, MY DEAR, COME IN!
POOR OBELIX! EVEN IN THIS STATE HE RETAINS ALL HIS SEDUCTIVE CHARM!
NO NEED TO OVERDO IT...
SO STONY-HEARTED! I'M HUMILIATED, THOUGH I SAY IT MYSELF!
STILL NO LUCK, ASTERIX.
13B


MEANWHILE, AT SEA OFF THE COAST OF ARMORICA...
ROMAN GALLEY RIGHT BEHIND US!!!
IT'S BEEN FOLLOWING FOR SOME TIME. WE MUST REACH OUR GOAL, QUICK!
SURE YOU'LL RECOGNISE THE VILLAGE OF THESE INDOMITABLE GAULS?
DEAR BOY, IT'S THE ONLY GAULISH VILLAGE WITH A HUT AT THE TOP OF A TREE! EASY-PEASY, WHAT!
VILLAGE AHOY! I'VE SIGHTED THE SITE!
LET'S LAND AND HIDE THE GALLEY UP A CREEK. AND SO WE DON'T RUN THE RISK OF BEING LEFT UP THE CREEK WITHOUT A PADDLE, I'LL GO AHEAD TO THE GAULISH VILLAGE ON MY OWN.
ON THE PURSUING GALLEY...
MUTINEERS COMING IN TO LAND, SIR!
EXCELLENT! WE'LL SEND THE PRE-ARRANGED SIGNAL TO ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS, WAITING IN THE CAMP OF AQUARIUM!
BUT HOW CAN YOU SEND HIM A SIGNAL, CAPTAIN?
BY MEANS OF ROMAN GENIUS, IGNORAMUS!
SEND THE SIGNAL!!
?!
DO YOU SACRIFICE A WHOLE GALLEY EVERY TIME YOU SEND A SIGNAL, CAPTAIN?


THERE'S THE SIGNAL, ADMIRAL!
THAT'S QUITE SOME SIGNAL!
JUST AS I EXPECTED! NOW TO MAKE OFF WITH CAESAR'S GALLEY ON THE QUIET, WITHOUT ROUSING THOSE GAULS!
...SO WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LET US STAY HERE UNTIL THE ROMANS FORGET ABOUT US!
YOU CAME TO THE RIGHT PLACE, SPARTAKIS, FOR...
...FOR STRONG IN OUR PROFOUND SENSE OF DUTY, WE OWE IT TO OURSELVES TO WELCOME THE OPPRESSED, THE MARTYRS AND ORPHANS OF A DEFEATED LAND, CRUSHED UNDERFOOT BY THE CALIGAE OF THE ROMAN L...
...EGIONS!
!?
PAF!
15A
NOW I DON'T NEED ANYONE ELSE... OOMPH!... TO MAKE ME LOOK RIDICULOUS!
YOU SAY YOU HOPPED IT IN CAESAR'S OWN GALLEY?
THAT'S RIGHT! HE MUST BE HOPPING MAD!
QUICK! WE MUST ROUSE THE VILLAGE. I'LL DOLE OUT MORE MAGIC POTION!
!
SO ISN'T ANYONE GOING TO HELP ME UP? I MEAN, I AM YOUR CHIEF, YOU KNOW!!!
QUICK, ASTERIX! THE DRUID'S HANDING OUT MAGIC POTION.
WHAT, AGAIN? WHAT FOR?
TO GET CAESAR'S GALLEY STOWED AWAY!
CAESAR'S WHAT?
15B

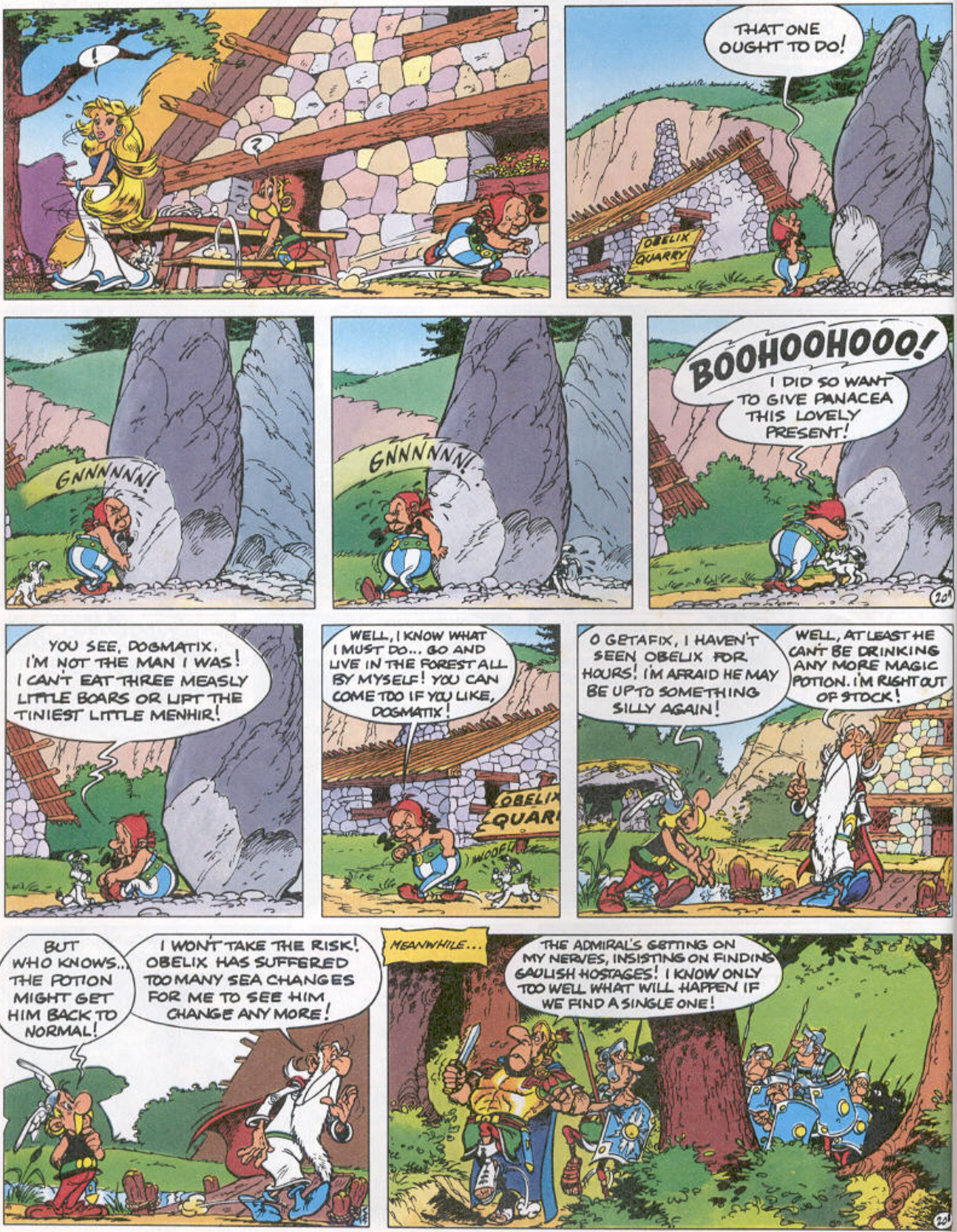

FUNNY SORT OF CUSTOM, DRINKING SOUP BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR VILLAGE. WHAT'S IT FOR?
YOU'LL SOON FIND OUT!
BY POSEIDON, WHAT A MIRACLE!
BY NEPTUNE, WHAT A CHEEK!!
I SAY, OLD BOY, THIS GAULISH VILLAGE IS A BIT OF LUCK, WHAT?
I FEEL QUITE CARRIED AWAY!
QUICK! WE MUST LOSE NO TIME IN WARNING ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS!
SOON AFTERWARDS...
AVE, ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS! YOU WERE RIGHT AS USUAL. THE MUTINEERS DID COME ASHORE NEAR THE GAULISH VILLAGE... BUT THE GAULS HAVE TAKEN CAESAR'S GALLEY INTO THE VILLAGE FOR SAFE KEEPING!
BY ALL THE GODS OF HADES!!! I HOPE YOU TOOK CARE TO ANCHOR YOUR OWN SHIP WHERE THOSE SAVAGES CAN'T GET AT IT!
IT WENT UP IN FLAMES AS PRE-ARRANGED FOR THE SIGNAL, O ADMIRAL!
GNGNGN
I DO HOPE YOU ENJOY THE CIRCUS, CAPTAIN!
FLAP! FLAP! FLAP! FLAP!


IF ONLY THERE'S BEEN SOME CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN POOR OBELIX...
WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!
I'M HUNGRY!
OBELIX! AT LAST!!!
WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!
WHAT THE...?!
TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE!!!
OF COURE IT IS! I AM HUNGRY!
LICK! LICK! LICK!
17A
WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MOVE! I'LL BE BACK RIGHT AWAY!
THIS CHANGE IN OBELIX IS CRAZY... RIDICULOUS!
THREE ROAST BOARS, ASTERIX! WELL DONE!
OBELIX HAS REVIVED... BUT HE'S ALSO REVERTED TO CHILDHOOD!
I MUST HAVE MADE A MISTAKE SOMEWHERE!
17B


ER... LOOK HERE, GETAFIX, COULD YOU BREW ME A LITTLE REJUVENATION POTION? JUST TO MAKE ME TWENTY YEARS YOUNGER...?
THE WAY MY POTIONS ARE WORKING THESE DAYS, IT MIGHT WELL MAKE YOU TWENTY YEARS OLDER!
ASTERIX!!! THIS IS TERRIBLE! HELP! HELP!
!?
!?
QUICK!!!
I'M COMING!
SEE HOW THIN I'VE GOT! THIS IS APPALLING!
PHEW!
YOU HAVEN'T GOT THIN, OBELIX, YOU'VE JUST RETURNED TO CHILDHOOD. NOW YOU SEE WHAT COMES OF BEING SO GREEDY!
BOOHOOHOO! DON'T LIKE IT! WANT TO EAT BOARS AND THUMP ROMANS SAME AS USUAL!
CALM DOWN, OBELIX! I'M SURE GETAFIX WILL BE ABLE TO FIX IT!!
HOWWL!
HE DOESN'T SEEM TOO PLEASED TO HAVE GONE BACK TO CHILDHOOD!
THOUGH YOU WOULDN'T THINK IT MADE MUCH DIFFERENCE TO HIM!
THE FIRST THING TO DO IS TRY AND FIND SOME CLOTHES TO FIT YOU.
MRS GERIATRIX! DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO COULD MAKE SOME CLOTHES FOR...
DON'T WANT TO!
I'M A GOOD NEEDLEWOMAN MYSELF! I'LL SEE TO THIS DEAR LITTLE BOY... COME ON, DIDDUMS!



ISN'T HE JUST DARLING? YOU MUST BE NEW HERE! WHAT'S YOUR NAME? THIS WAY, SWEETIE-PIE!
DON'T WANT TO!
FUNNY THING... YOU REMIND ME OF POOR OBELIX! NOTHING LIKE AS FAT, OF COURSE!
IN THE FIRST PLACE HE IS NOT FAT. JUST WELL-COVERED!
AND NOW WE'LL TAKE THAT LITTLE TOWEL OFF SO I CAN MEASURE YOUR DEAR LITTLE TUMMY!
DON'T WANT TO!
LATER...
HE MUST BE RELATED TO OBELIX! THERE'S SUCH A FAMILY LIKENESS I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO MAKE HIM STRIPED BREECHES TOO!
YOU NEVER GAVE ME TIME TO EXPLAIN! THIS LITTLE BOY IS OBELIX, UNDER THE EFFECTS OF ONE OF OUR DRUID'S POTIONS!
THUD!
GUTTERSNIPES!!! SCAMPS! YOU LITTLE IMPS!!!
19A
HERE ARE SOME ROAST BOARS TO TAKE YOUR MIND OFF YOUR TROUBLES, OBELIX!
THERE ARE STILL TWO LEFT, YOU KNOW. YOU DID ASK FOR THREE!
I... I'M NOT HUNGRY ANY MORE!
BOOHOOHOOOOO!
I'M FINISHED! I CAN'T EVEN EAT THREE BOARS AT A SITTING!
POOR LITTLE OBELIX! I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU! NEVER MIND, IT'S NOT SO BAD!
SMACK!
THERE! FEELING BETTER NOW?
WGHSTRFG!
HUH!
19B


!
?
THAT ONE OUGHT TO DO!
OBELIX QUARRY
GNNNNNN!
GNNNNNN!
BOOHOOHOOO!
I DID SO WANT TO GIVE PANACEA THIS LOVELY PRESENT!
YOU SEE, DOGMATIX, I'M NOT THE MAN I WAS! I CAN'T EAT THREE MEASLY LITTLE BOARS OR LIFT THE TINIEST LITTLE MENHIR!
WELL, I KNOW WHAT I MUST DO... GO AND LIVE IN THE FOREST ALL BY MYSELF! YOU CAN COME TOO IF YOU LIKE, DOGMATIX!
WOOF!
O GETAFIX, I HAVEN'T SEEN OBELIX FOR HOURS! I'M AFRAID HE MAY BE UP TO SOMETHING SILLY AGAIN!
WELL, AT LEAST HE CAN'T BE DRINKING ANY MORE MAGIC POTION. I'M RIGHT OUT OF STOCK!
BUT WHO KNOWS... THE POTION MIGHT GET HIM BACK TO NORMAL!
I WON'T TAKE THE RISK! OBELIX HAS SUFFERED TOO MANY SEA CHANGES FOR ME TO SEE HIM CHANGE ANY MORE!
MEANWHILE...
THE ADMIRAL'S GETTING ON MY NERVES, INSISTING ON FINDING GAULISH HOSTAGES! I KNOW ONLY TOO WELL WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF WE FIND A SINGLE ONE!


JUST THINK, DOGMATIX! I COULD ONCE SEND A WHOLE ROMAN LEGION FLYING, AND NOW I'M JUST A SHADOW OF MY FORMER SELF!
SOMEONE'S COMING! QUICK, HIDE!!!
CLING! CLANG! CLONG!
WHO WENT CLING CLANG CLONG?
THERE'S MY HOSTAGE!!!
GOODY, GOODY, GOODY! LOTS OF LOVELY ROMANS!
GET HIM!
GRRR!
I DON'T LIKE TAKING CHILDREN HOSTAGE, BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE!
JUST LOOK AT THE LITTLE TITCH! HE THINKS HE'S THE TERRIBLE OBELIX!
GRRR!
BUT I AM OBELIX!!!
AND I'M QUEEN CLEOPATRA!
OUCH!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
TAKE HIM AWAY. NOT EXACTLY A FAT CAT OF A HOSTAGE, BUT HE MAY DO!
DO WE REALLY HAVE TO TAKE THIS DOG TOO?
GRRR!
PAF!
YOU WAIT TILL I'M BIG AND JUST WELL-COVERED AGAIN! THEN YOU'LL SEE!!!


HOOOWWWL
?!
DOGMATIX IS BEHAVING ODDLY! THAT MEANS OBELIX MUST BE IN DANGER!!!
WOOF! WOOF!
YOU WAIT HERE, DOGMATIX. I MUST TELL THE OTHERS!
OBELIX IS IN DANGER!! I'M OFF TO HELP HIM!
THIS MUST BE THE ROMANS' DOING! WE'LL BE WITH YOU, ASTERIX!
WAIT WHILE I MAKE ANOTHER CAULDRON OF POTION! I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO NEED SOME MORE!
SOON AFTERWARDS...
YOU WILL BE AMONG THE FEW VISITORS TO OUR VILLAGE EVER TO HAVE DRUNK THE MAGIC POTION!
IT'S A GREAT HONOUR FOR US, O VENERABLE DRUID!
AND FINALLY...
DOGMATIX WILL LEAD US STRAIGHT TO OBELIX'S KIDNAPPERS!
SNIFF SNIFF SNIFF
I KNEW IT! THAT'S WHERE OBELIX IS BEING HELD PRISONER!


CHAAAARRRRGE!
THEY... THEY'RE COMING!
WHO? MORE OF THE TOP BRASS?
NO! THE GAULS!
NOT AGAIN! I'M GETTING REALLY BRASSED OFF!
CRAAASH!
IF I'D HAD THIS POTION WHEN I WAS A GLADIATOR I COULD HAVE DONE SOME REAL DAMAGE! IT'S A KNOCKOUT!
TCHRAC!
JOIN THE PARTY, ROMANS! WHAT A SPLENDID BASH!
I VOS ONLY ASKING WHO FOR A GAME OF SQVASH IS!
I ASSURE YOU, SIR, I'M NOT A RACIST!
NO, YOU'RE NOT FIT FOR ANY RACE AT ALL! TAKE THAT!
LOOK, JUST WHAT ARE YOU AFTER?
THAT YOUNG GAUL YOU KIDNAPPED!
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO BEFORE? ADMIRAL CRUSTACIUS HAS SHIPPED HIM OFF TO ROME AS A BARGAINING COUNTER TO SWAP FOR CAESAR'S GALLEY!


SURE ENOUGH, THE ADMIRAL'S SHIP, ALL SAILS SET, IS MAKING FOR OSTIA, THE PORT OF ROME, WITH A POOR LITTLE GAUL BELOW DECKS AND FEELING VERY LOW...
SO I GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD! SO I LOSE MY STRENGTH! THE ROMANS AREN'T AFRAID OF ME ANY MORE AND I'M THEIR PRISONER...
OH ASTERIX, PLEASE COME AND HELP ME OUT OF THIS!
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? WE MUST CATCH UP WITH THE ROMAN SHIP AND RESCUE OBELIX!
MY CREW AND I ARE READY TO PURSUE THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY, ASTERIX!
I'LL COME WITH YOU. I'VE JUST HAD AN IDEA WHICH MIGHT SOLVE POOR OBELIX'S PROBLEMS!
?!
HERE'S YOUR GOURD OF POTION, ASTERIX! I'VE FILLED THIS BARREL TOO, BECAUSE I WON'T BE ABLE TO BREW ANY MORE ON THE VOYAGE!
WE'LL KEEP IT AWAY FROM THE BARRELS OF DRINKING WATER, TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE!
AND SOON AFTERWARDS...
WE'LL SOON OVERTAKE THE ADMIRAL'S SHIP, THANKS TO THE EFFECTS OF YOUR POTION, O DRUID!
YES, AND ONCE WE'VE RESCUED OBELIX I'LL TELL YOU MY IDEA, ASTERIX!
FLOP! FLOP! FLOP! FLOP! FLOP!
?


HERE'S YOUR LUNCH, SONNY BOY!
DON'T WANT IT! I WANT WILD BOAR, NOODLE!
SAYS HE WANTS WILD BOAR WITH NOODLES!
!
WHAT? WILD BOAR? OH YES, AND WHAT ELSE?!! HE'LL EAT WHAT WE GIVE HIM AND LIKE IT OR LUMP IT!
ALLOW ME TO POINT OUT THAT IF YOUR EXCELLENCY PERSISTS IN REFUSING THIS YOUNG GAUL NOURISHMENT, WE CAN'T COUNT ON RETAINING OUR ONLY BARGAINING COUNTER!
YOU HAVE A POINT. RIGHT! SUMMON MY CHEF GLUTTONUS AND BRING ME THE YOUNG GAUL!
GLUTTONUS IS THE BEST CHEF IN ROME! HE'LL CURE THAT YOUNG BARBARIAN OF HIS BAD TASTE!
FOR STARTERS, I SUGGEST HAWKMOTH CATERPILLARS PRESERVED IN ACACIA HONEY, FOLLOWED BY A PAN OF EARTHWORMS FRIED IN CASTOR OIL. AS THE MAIN DISH, COWS' UDDERS COOKED PLAIN OR IN A SAUCE.
DON'T WANT THAT! WANT WILD BOAR!
!?!?
WE DON'T PIG OUT ON BORING MEAT LIKE THAT IN MY KITCHEN, BY APICIUS!
WANT WILD BOAR!
THE ONLY ONE OF HIS KIND, AND HE HAD TO CROSS MY PATH! GNNNNN!!!
PUT IN AT THE FIRST PORT AND FIND ME A WILD BOAR BEFORE I MAKE HIM SWALLOW...
...WILD BOAR!


WE SHOULD HAVE CAUGHT UP WITH THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY AGES AGO, GETAFIX!
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S ODD!
WE'VE LEFT THE MARE BRITANNICUM (THE ENGLISH CHANNEL) AND NOW WE'RE ROUNDING THE ISLAND OF SENA (THE ILE DE SEIN), AND WE HAVEN'T SEEN A SAIL ON THE HORIZON! THIS ISN'T NORMAL!
FOR GOOD REASON... THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY IS ONLY JUST LEAVING THE HARBOUR OF GESOBRIVATUM (BREST), WHERE IT WAS HIDDEN FROM SIGHT!
RIGHT. NOW YOU'VE GOT YOUR BOAR!!!
SO EAT UP AND SHUT UP!!!
DON'T WANT BOILED BOAR! WANT ROAST BOAR!
THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR AN ARTIST LIKE ME! I'M THROWING IN MY APRON!
I'LL MURDER HIM! I'LL STRANGLE H.... HRRG! HAAAARF!!! HERRRKK!!!
SAIL AHOY RIGHT AHEAD!
PHEW! AT LAST!
ROMAN SHIP AHOY RIGHT AHEAD!
NO GAULS CELEBRATING THEIR USUAL RITE OF PASSAGE?



NO, WE'RE IN THE CLEAR! THAT'S CAESAR'S GALLEY!
LET'S SHOW OUR LOYALTY! YOU NEVER KNOW... AVE CAESAR!
STOP!!! FULL ASTERN!
THEY'RE... THEY'RE RUNNING US DOWN!!!
CRAAAAASH!
TOO LATE!
WHAT ON EARTH DID I SAY WRONG?
SUMMUM JUS, SUMMA INJURIA!
AND QUITE SOME JUICY INJURY TOO! AVE CAESAR! THAT'S WHAT COMES OF HYPOCRISY!
GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!
SORRY WE BUMPED YOU, BUT WOULD YOU BE KIND ENOUGH TO TELL US IF YOU'VE MET ANOTHER ROMAN GALLEY?
IT'S... IT'S THE LITTLE TOUGH!
GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!
YOU'RE THE FIRST SHIP WE'VE MET, AND WE'RE SHIPPING WATER SO FAST I HAVE A SINKING FEELING WE WON'T MEET ANY MORE!
ROMAN SAIL RIGHT BEHIND US! MUST BE BEHIND TIME TOO!
BUT IT CAN'T BE THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY. THAT'S AHEAD OF US!
ROMAN SAIL RIGHT AHEAD, ADMIRAL!
BUT IT CAN'T BE CAESAR'S GALLEY. THAT'S BEHIND US!


THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY!!!
?!
CAESAR'S GALLEY!!!
THE GAULS' GALLEY!!!
LET'S GET AT THOSE KIDNAPPERS!
I... I ORDER YOU TO DEFEND US!
WE'RE ONLY IMMIGRANT SLAVE WORKERS, YOU KNOW! YOUR INTERNAL DISPUTES ARE NONE OF OUR BUSINESS!
SO YOU'RE SCARED OF THIS LITTLE TITCH?
CAN'T THINK WHY!
TCHAC!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THAT YOUNG GAUL?
I... I FORBID YOU TO LAY A FINGER ON ME! I MAY BE RESPONSIBLE, BUT I'M NOT GUILTY!
THE YOUNG GAUL'S DOWN IN THE HOLD! GULP!
PAF!
PIF!
DOGMATIX!! AT LAST!!!
OBELIX! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES, JUST A BIT HUNGRY!
DEAR OLD OBELIX! LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF THIS... I WON'T ALWAYS BE ABLE TO PUT MY ARMS ROUND YOU!
WOOF! WOOF!
YOU... YOU THINK NOT ASTERIX?

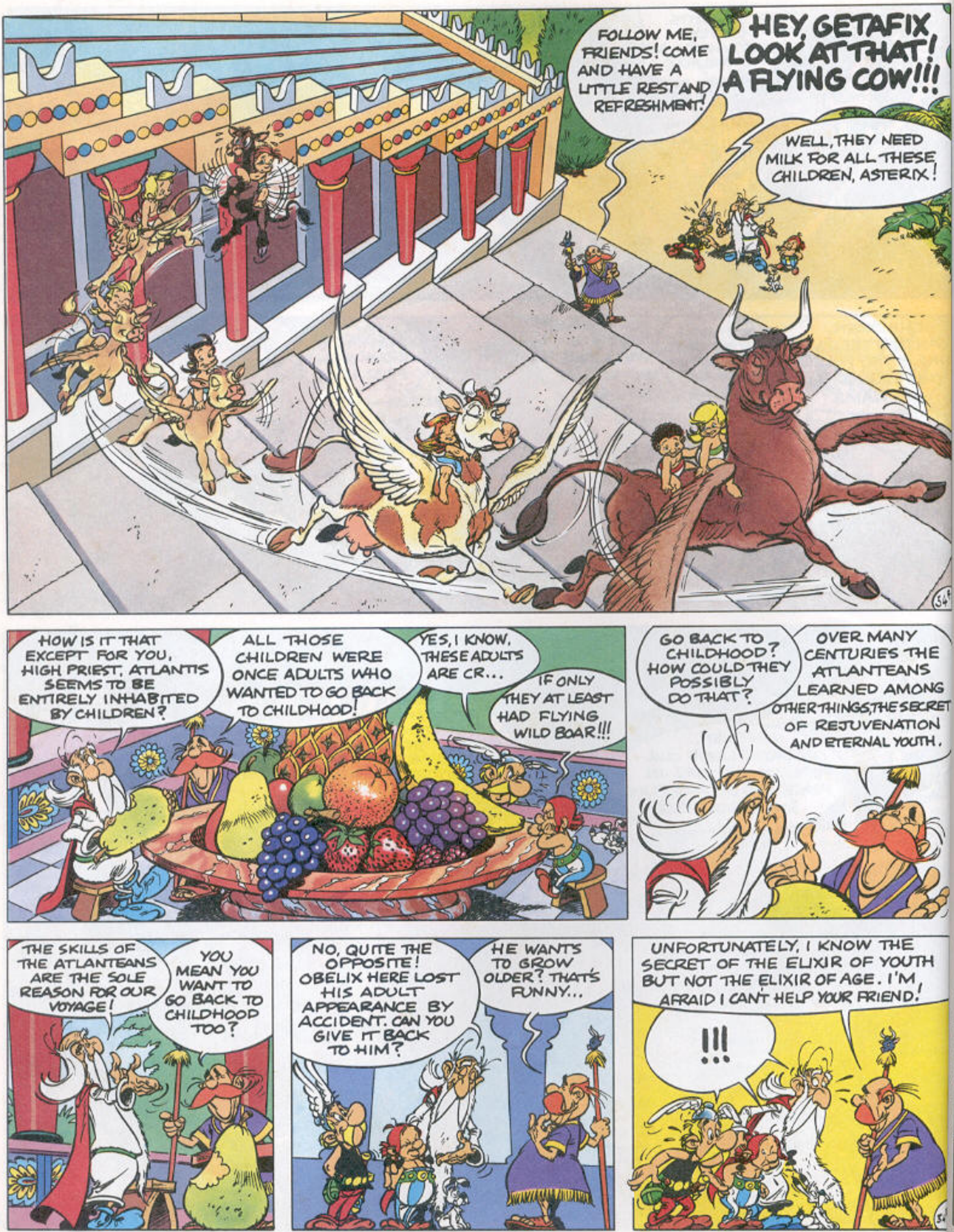

ROMANS, PREPARE TO GET YOUR DESERTS FOR TAKING A DEFENCELESS CHILD HOSTAGE!
I STILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO REALIZE IT'S ME HE MEANS!
I HAVE A FEW ACCOUNTS TO SETTLE WITH THESE ROMANS! I WANT THEM TO EAT THE BOILED BOAR THEY TRIED TO STUFF DOWN MY THROAT!
GRRR!
YUK!
YUK!
COME ON, IT'S NOT THAT BAD! IF I ADDED A FEW NICE PLUMP SLUGS MARINATED IN CURRANT JUICE I'M SURE THEY'D GO OVERBOARD FOR IT IN ROME!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
LOOK, WE'VE GONE OVERBOARD HERE AND NOW!
YEAH... YOU WEREN'T GOING TO FORGET US SHIPWRECKED MARINERS, WERE YOU?
COME UP ON BOARD THIS VESSEL, CAP'N! I HAVE A PROPOSITION TO MAKE YOU!
AN HONEST ONE, I HOPE?
BY WAY OF COMPENSATION, WE'LL GIVE YOU JULIUS CAESAR'S GALLEY AND ALL ON BOARD!
WHAT WILL I GET OUT OF THAT?
CAESAR WILL BE SO GLAD TO RECOVER HIS GALLEY, HIS ADMIRAL AND HIS VICE-ADMIRAL, HE'LL PAY YOU ANY RANSOM YOU ASK!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!
SHUT UP AND EAT UP!
GIDDY GOAT'S HORNS, LAD, I KNEW WE'D DO BUSINESS SOME DAY! IT'S A BARGAIN! FIFTY-FIFTY, RIGHT?
VERY GENEROUS OF YOU, CAP'N!
SLAP
GOOD LUCK, CAP'N!
CHEERS, LADDIE!
AND YOU'LL WAIT A LONG TIME TO SEE THE COLOUR OF YOUR FIFTY PERCENT! HO, HO, HO!


WE DON'T CARRY IDLE HANDS ON THIS SHIP! GET DOWN TO THE OARS LIKE EVERYONE ELSE!
IF CAESAR COULD SEE US NOW!
IT WOULD MAKE THINGS EVEN WORSE!
PUT YOUR BACKS INTO IT, ROMANS!
CRACK!
YOU UP THERE, BOY! COME DOWN! I NEED SOMEONE TO BEAT THE DRUMS!
GOODY! I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A DRUMMER!
WE HAVE TO SPEED UP THE STROKE RATE! CAN YOU BEAT OUT THAT RHYTHM ON THE DRUMS?
I GOT RHYTHM, CAP'N! I'LL DRUM IT INTO 'EM!
BODONG!
TOC!
BONG! BONG!
TAGADONG!
TOBODOUBODOU
TCHACTCHAC
DOUBOU
TIPITIPITIP
CLAP! CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!
DONGBONG!
BODOBOBONG!
BODOBOMBOD
CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!
THAT WILL DO!
GET BACK UP TO THE CROW'S NEST, YOU! PEGLEG WILL SUIT US BETTER!
PEGLEG! HUH! HE WON'T DRUM MUCH RHYTHM INTO THEM! THEY'LL ALL BE RESTING ON THEIR OARS!
BONG! BONG!


THE ADMIRAL'S GALLEY CAPTURED BY THE GAULS IS GOING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM THE GALLEY NOW BEING SAILED BY THE PIRATES.
YOU SAID YOU HAD AN IDEA FOR HELPING OBELIX, O DRUID!
THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S TIME TO TAKE AN IMPORTANT DECISION, ASTERIX!
SPARTAKIS, I BELIEVE YOU'RE A GOOD SAILOR?
SO DO I! I'M GREEK, YOU KNOW!
WOULD YOU AND YOUR CREW AGREE TO TAKE US TO A DISTANT ISLAND?
WHAT'S THIS DISTANT ISLAND CALLED?
ATLANTIS!
?!
?
I THOUGHT THAT LEGENDARY CONTINENT SANK BENEATH THE WAVES LONG AGO!
IT DID. BUT A GROUP OF OFFSHORE ISLANDS WAS LEFT.* THE LARGEST IS STILL INHABITED BY THE LAST ATLANTEANS!
* SOMETIMES THOUGHT TO BE THE CANARY ISLANDS.
31A
BUT WHAT DOES THIS ATLANTIS PLACE HAVE TO DO WITH OBELIX?
THE ATLANTEANS ARE DESCENDED FROM A VERY ANCIENT CIVILIZATION, FAR MORE ADVANCED THAN OUR OWN. OBELIX COULD BENEFIT FROM THEIR SKILLS!
WE AGREE, DRUID! WE'LL SET COURSE FOR ATLANTIS! ER... THE CREW WOULDN'T MIND BENEFITING FROM YOUR POTION AGAIN.
OF COURSE!
I'LL FETCH SOME FROM THE RESERVE BARREL!
AND THIS LAST BARREL IS FULL OF WATER TOO... BUT THEN... THAT MUST MEAN...
GETAFIX! WE'VE GOT NO MORE MAGIC POTION!
AND THIS TIME YOU CAN'T BLAME ME!
31B


THIS IS TERRIBLE! WE MUST HAVE LEFT THE BARREL OF POTION BEHIND IN THE OTHER GALLEY'S HOLD!!!
AND NOW IT'S OUT OF REACH!!
NEVER MIND, WE'LL MANAGE WITHOUT! THE VOYAGE WILL TAKE LONGER, THAT'S ALL!
AND SO THE LONG VOYAGE SOUTH BEGINS, A VOYAGE OF NO INTEREST BUT FOR THE FACT THAT IT IS LONG AND OF NO INTEREST.
WE'VE ROUNDED THE COAST OF HISPANIA①, THE COAST OF LUSITANIA②, AND NOW WE'RE SAILING DOWN THE COAST OF AFRICA! WE OUGHT TO BE THERE SOON!
① SPAIN
② PORTUGAL
SURE ENOUGH, AT DAWN...
LAND AHOY! LAND AHOY!!!
AT LAST YOU SEE BEFORE YOU THE LEGENDARY ISLAND OF ATLANTIS!
FUNNY WAY OF NAVIGATING!
THESE ATLANTEANS ARE CRAZY!


BY TOUTATIS, DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE, O DRUID?
IT CERTAINLY IS STRANGE TO BE WELCOMED BY NO ONE BUT CHILDREN!
CHILDREN, CAN YOU TELL US WHO IS THE RULER OF THIS ISLAND, AND HIS NAME?
I'M DREAMING!
OUR HIGH PRIEST. HE'S ABSOLUTLIFABULOS!
FOLLOW US! WE'LL TAKE YOU TO OUR LEADER!
I'M SURE THE CREW WILL FIND US!
I KNEW THESE ATLANTEANS WERE CRAZY!!!
IT'S A DREAM! IT JUST HAS TO BE A DREAM!
NOW THEN, CHILDREN! LEAVE OUR FOREIGN VISITORS IN PEACE AND GO AND PLAY SOMEWHERE ELSE!
THANK YOU FOR WELCOMING US, HIGH PRIEST ABSOLUTLIFABULOS! WE HAVE COME FROM DISTANT GAUL. I AM THE DRUID GETAFIX, AND THESE ARE MY COMPANIONS, ASTERIX AND OBELIX!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR TINY MIND?
COMING TO PLAY WITH US?


FOLLOW ME, FRIENDS! COME AND HAVE A LITTLE REST AND REFRESHMENT!
HEY, GETAFIX, LOOK AT THAT! A FLYING COW!!!
WELL, THEY NEED MILK FOR ALL THESE CHILDREN, ASTERIX!
HOW IS IT THAT EXCEPT FOR YOU, HIGH PRIEST, ATLANTIS SEEMS TO BE ENTIRELY INHABITED BY CHILDREN?
ALL THOSE CHILDREN WERE ONCE ADULTS WHO WANTED TO GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD!
YES, I KNOW. THESE ADULTS ARE CR...
IF ONLY THEY AT LEAST HAD FLYING WILD BOAR!!!
GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD? HOW COULD THEY POSSIBLY DO THAT?
OVER MANY CENTURIES THE ATLANTEANS LEARNED AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE SECRET OF REJUVENATION AND ETERNAL YOUTH.
THE SKILLS OF THE ATLANTEANS ARE THE SOLE REASON FOR OUR VOYAGE!
YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO CHILDHOOD TOO?
NO, QUITE THE OPPOSITE! OBELIX HERE LOST HIS ADULT APPEARANCE BY ACCIDENT. CAN YOU GIVE IT BACK TO HIM?
HE WANTS TO GROW OLDER? THAT'S FUNNY...
UNFORTUNATELY, I KNOW THE SECRET OF THE ELIXIR OF YOUTH BUT NOT THE ELIXIR OF AGE. I'M AFRAID I CAN'T HELP YOUR FRIEND!
!!!


OH DEAR! SO WE CAME ALL THIS WAY FOR NOTHING! WE'LL JUST HAVE TO GO HOME TO OUR VILLAGE!
ALL THE SAME, HIGH PRIEST, I MUST SAY I THINK YOUR SKILLS ARE ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS TOO!
I'M ONLY SORRY THEY'RE NO HELP TO YOU!
SOMETIMES I ENVY OUR FRIEND OBELIX! HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW LUCKY HE IS, GETTING HIS CHILDHOOD BACK! WELL, WE'D BETTER BE OFF. THE CREW WILL BE WAITING.
ER... THE FACT IS...
... IF THE HIGH PRIEST AGREES, THE CREW AND I WOULD LIKE TO STAY. ATLANTIS SEEMS TO BE A LAND OF LIBERTY!
!?
?!
35A
VERY WELL, STRICTLY ON CONDITION THAT OUR GAULISH FRIENDS NEVER REVEAL THE EXISTENCE OF ATLANTIS!
WE SWEAR NEVER TO MENTION IT, ABSOLUTLI-FABULOS!
FLOP!
I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND, ASTERIX!
OF COURSE! YOU'LL BE REALLY FREE MEN HERE!
I SAY, OLD BOY, WE HAD SOME GOOD TIMES, WHAT?
IT WAS NICE MEETING A LITTLE BUNDLE OF JOY LIKE YOU... AND YOUR SEA-DOG THERE!
CAN WE ASK YOU ONE MORE FAVOUR, HIGH PRIEST?
I THINK I CAN GUESS WHAT IT IS!
SO NOW WE CAN ONLY RELY ON THE KINDNESS OF AEOLUS* TO GET US HOME.
I FEAR SO.
* GOD OF THE WINDS.
THE INGREDIENTS FOR THE MAGIC POTION AREN'T AVAILABLE ON THIS ISLAND!
WELL, WE STILL HAVE THE CONTENTS OF MY GOURD IF NECESSARY!
IT'S A SHAME YOU'RE GOING! WE HAVE A GREAT TIME HERE!
RRASP!
35B



YOU KNOW, I'D HAVE EXPECTED SPARTAKIS AND HIS FRIENDS TO COME AND SEE US OFF!
I MOVE A VOTE OF THANKS AS OUR FRIENDS MOVE AWAY... IT'S A MOVING MOMENT!
I SECOND THAT, HOMBRE!
RIGHT, WHAT WOULD YOU LOT LIKE TO PLAY NEXT?
MEANWHILE, ON ANOTHER SEA AND IN ANOTHER GALLEY...
LAND AHOY! ROME SWEET, ROME!
AT LAST!
I'M ALL IN! FOR PITY'S SAKE, I'M PARCHED!
GET HIM A DRINK! WE HAVE TO LOOK AFTER THIS CUSTOMER... HE'S WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD!
IT'S HIGH TIME WE LANDED! THIS IS THE LAST BARREL OF DRINKING WATER!
YOU'RE IN LUCK, ROMAN! DRYING OUT'S NO FUN! WELL, NUNC EST BIBENDUM!


YAHOOOOOOU!
!?
GIDDY GOAT'S HORNS! WHAT THE...
WITH A ONE...
SPLATCH!
AND A TWO...
PAF!
AND A THREE...
BANG!
THREE MEN OVERBOARD!
LOOK, I ONLY GAVE HIM A DRINK OF WATER!
FELIX QUI POTUIT RERUM COGNOSCERE CAUSAS.
NEVER MIND THE POTTY CAUSES NOW!
I FEEL IN TERRIFIC FORM!
WHY, ADMIRAL, ANYONE MIGHT THINK YOU'D BEEN DRINKING THAT GAULISH MAGIC POTION!
BY JUPITER... ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR CRUSTACIUS! IT'S THE MAGIC POTION!
QUICK! I MUST GET A MOVE ON BEFORE THAT IDIOT TWIGS!
?



FAR FROM CAESAR'S GALLEY...
ROMAN GALLEY MAKING RIGHT FOR US!
ADMIRAL'S GALLEY RIGHT AHEAD!
THAT'S ODD, I THOUGHT IT WAS MAKING FOR ROME?
WE CAN'T AVOID THEM WITHOUT OARSMEN, ASTERIX!
I STILL HAVE MY GOURD OF MAGIC POTION, REMEMBER?
IT'S THE GAULS!
?!
THIS IS ODD... LET'S PLAY SAFE AND SEND A WARNING SHOT ACROSS THEIR BOWS BEFORE WE BOARD THEM!
I'M COVERING YOU! DON'T BE AFRAID!
WHO'S AFRAID OF ANYONE?
BE CAREFUL, ASTERIX! I HAVE A NASTY FOREBODING!
GRRRR!
PAF!
PFFF!
SURRENDER, GAULS!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH THE ADMIRAL AND HIS CREW?, WHO ARE YOU?
YOU'LL SOON FIND OUT IF YOU TOUCH ANOTHER HAIR OF MY FRIEND ASTERIX'S HEAD!
GRRRR!


THE SEA HERE IS TEEMING WITH SHARKS... THEY'LL HAVE A FIELD DAY! THROW THIS GAUL WITH THE YELLOW WHISKERS OVERBOARD!
NOOOOO! DON'T DO IT!!! ASTERIX!
POC!
ASTERIX!
WITH A ONE...
?
GNNN!
?
AND A TWO...
GNNNN!
38A
GNNNNN!
AND A THREE!
I'VE AN IDEA WE'RE GOING TO HAVE FUN AGAIN AT LAST, DOGMATIX!
MUMMMMY!
WOOF WOOF!
AND MY NAME IS OBELIX!
ROW FOR YOUR LIVES!
NO ONE WILL EVER BELIEVE THIS!
38B


PHEW! I FINALLY MANAGED TO SALVAGE THIS GOURD OF...
OBELIX!!! WHAT HAPPENED?
NO IDEA. IT COULD HAVE BEEN THE EFFECT OF SEEING ASTERIX IN DANGER. BUT WHO DID THAT TO YOU... THE ROMANS?
NO, THE SHARKS. BUT I TOOK A MOUTHFUL OF POTION AND THEY DIDN'T PUT THE BITE ON ME!
ASTERIX LOOKS IN BAD SHAPE.
OH. HE'LL SOON BE FINE! A POTION A DAY KEEPS THE ROMANS AWAY!
GLUG! GLUG! GLUG!
?!
OBELIX!!! WHAT HAPPENED?
YES, I KNOW THIS IS GETTING REPETITIVE, BUT IT'S A QUESTION WORTH ASKING!
GOOD THING I BROUGHT YOUR CLOTHES ALONG, JUST IN CASE!
YOU'RE THE BEST FRIEND I KNOW, ASTERIX!
AAAAH! IT'S GOOD TO GET BACK TO MY OWN SIZE!
AND IT'LL BE GOOD TO GET HOME! HIGH TIME WE WENT BACK TO THE VILLAGE!
DOGMATIX AND I WILL ROW!
YIPPEE!!
MEANWHILE, FAR AWAY...
THE ADMIRAL'S BEEN DOWN THERE AN AWFULLY LONG TIME! I'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK!
?!


WHAT THE... HE'S TURNED TO STONE!!!
TAP! TAP! TAP!
THIS MUST BE THE HARDEST WATER EVER!
BUT... BUT NOW I CAN TAKE CAESAR HIS GALLEY BACK ON MY OWN! HE'LL PROMOTE ME TO ADMIRAL AT LEAST!
HOWEVER... AT THIS MOMENT A YOUNG OFFICER AND A CAPTAIN WITHOUT A SHIP ARE ON DUTY IN CHARGE OF THE SECURITY OF OSTIA, THE PORT OF ROME.
LOOK, CAPTAIN! A SHIP FLYING THE PIRATES' ENSIGN IS COMING IN!
LOAD THE BALISTAS!
WHEN I GIVE THE WORD...
FIRE!
SWOOSH!!
?!
CRASH!
AVE CAESAR


LET'S BE MAGNANIMOUS AND PICK UP THOSE STUPID, IMPUDENT AND PRETENTIOUS PIRATES!
WHY... WHY, IT'S YOU, VICE ADMIRAL NAUTILUS!
SO IT IS! AND IF YOU WANT TO SEE THE ADMIRAL, HE'S DOWN BELOW!
?
SO STATUES ARE WEARING CLOTHES NOW?
IT'S THE DECADENT LATE ROMAN STYLE!
THIS IS A DISASTER! JULIUS CAESAR'S OWN GALLEY!!!
YES, AND WHICH OF US IS GOING TO TELL HIM ABOUT IT?
NOT VERY FAR FROM HOME NOW, OBELIX!
YOU KNOW, I'D LIKE TO MAKE A LITTLE DETOUR BEFORE WE REACH THE VILLAGE, ASTERIX!
I'VE AN IDEA OBELIX WANTS TO PAY THE CAMP OF AQUARIUM A VISIT.
WELL, WE OWE HIM SOME FUN!
ADMIRAL'S GALLEY IN SIGHT!
HUH! YET ANOTHER BRASS HAT!
WHAT... WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
SNOOZING, YOU BET!
RAISE THE...


CRAAAAASH!
ALARM...
?!
YOOHOO! IT'S ME! I TOLD YOU I'D BE BACK WHEN I WAS BIG AGAIN AND JUST WELL COVERED!
YOU KNOW, OUR FRIEND OBELIX IS JUST A BIG BABY AT HEART!
IT'S THAT CRAZY FAT MAN!!!
AND SOON AFTERWARDS...
IT'S THESE LITTLE THINGS THAT MAKE YOU FEEL LIFE'S WORTH LIVING!
AQUARIUM FORTIFIED CAMP


IN MEMORY OF THE SILLIEST SAUSAGE IN ROME
HURRY UP! THE LIONS WILL SOON BE BACK ON!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU, CAESAR! YOUR ADMIRAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSING YOUR GALLEY, AND YOU PUT UP A STATUE TO HIM RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ARENA?!
THE LIONS DON'T EAT MUCH GRANITE, IT'S TRUE, BUT NOWADAYS YOU NEVER KNOW. SOMETHING TELLS ME THINGS MIGHT CHANGE, AND THEN MAYBE...
?
TAP! TAP! TAP!
AND A LITTLE LATER AND MUCH FURTHER AWAY, THE VILLAGE OF INDOMITABLE GAULS IS HAPPILY CELEBRATING THE RETURN OF ITS HEROES, ONE OF WHOM IS BACK IN HIS OWN SHAPE... A SHAPE WHICH, AS WE KNOW, IS JUST WELL-COVERED.
DO BE SENSIBLE, OBELIX! YOU'LL HAVE NIGHTMARES AGAIN!
SCRUNCH! NO FEAR OF THAT. SCRUNCH! I HAVE A LOT OF CATCHING UP TO DO... GULP!
SO IT SEEMS THE MUTINEERS HAVE FOUND ASYLUM IN ANOTHER LAND OF LIBERTY, MY DEAR GETAFIX?
THE ONLY LAND OF LIBERTY I KNOW IS RIGHT UNDER OUR OWN FEET, MY DEAR VITALSTATISTIX!
SCRUNCH! SCRUNCH!
THE END
UDERZO - 96